Delay/Postponement of MIG-27 upgradation project

1590. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the project for upgradation of MIG-27 has been de layed or indefinitely postponed; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof and reasons for the delay and the number of MIG-27 aircrafts with IAF and how many of them arc grounded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Upgradation of MIG-27 is planned during the 9th Plan period. No aircraft is grounded because of non-upgradation.

Bofors resumed Arms sale

1591. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as reported in foreign newspapers, the Bofors company has re sumed sales of arms to India; and

(b) in case answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, the reasons for again allow ing this company to do business in this country despite its black record?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) There is an embargo on M/s. Bofors till they yield the names and full details of the recipients of the commission in the Supply Contract for the FH 77B Gun System and ammunition and return the amount. The embargo countinucs.

Components worth approximately Rs. 10.16 crores were procured by Ordancc Factory Board during the period 1993-94 to 1996-97 from M/s. MIPRO AB of Sweden for the manufacture of weapons and ammunition. It had been confirmed by the Indian Embassy in Sweden that M/s. MIPRO AB did not have any links with M/s. Bofors.

CBI report on Bofors kickback

1592. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has submitted its report on the multi-crore Bofors kickback case; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Further action on the Report will be as per the provisions of law and divulging details of the report at this stage could prejudice further action as provided under the law.

पृथ्वी मिसाइलों की तैनाती

1593. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**

श्री रामगोपाल यादव:

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 14.7.97 के "राष्ट्रीय सहारा" के पृष्ठ संख्या-7 पर "मिसाइल कार्यक्रम व प्रतिरक्षा में ढील खतरनाक" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित उस समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया जिसमें रक्षा विशेषज्ञों ने यह मत व्यक्तध किया हैं कि पृथ्वी को तुरन्त तैनात किया जाये; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार "पृथ्वी" को तैनात किये जाने के संबंध में कब तक निर्णय लेगी और तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं?

रक्षा मंत्रालयों में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन0वी0एन0सोमू) : (क) से (ख) सरकार को उन मीडिया रिपोटों की जानकारी है जिनमें भारत के मिसाइल कार्यक्रम तथा तीनों सेनाओं के आधुनिकीकरण कार्यक्रमों के संबंध में चिन्ता व्यक्त की गई हैं।

सरकार भारत की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा पर प्रभाव डालने वाली सभी गतिविधियों पर कड़ी नजर रखती हैं और उपयुक्त सुरक्षा तैयारी बनाए रखने के लिए सभी आवश्यक कदम उठाती हैं।